

Dear Judiciary Committee

Although the intent of ~~%~~addressing gun violence and juvenile crime~~+~~is laudable, the methods stated in SB 16 are too simplistic and do not address the actual failings of society to educate and provide opportunity to its young citizens so they wont be as likely to be compelled to pursue criminal activity. This bill would have a severe impact on the ability of law-abiding citizens to protect themselves. The criminal elements in our society simply scoff knowing they will not be vigorously prosecuted even if caught. The existing laws are sufficient to address these issues; they just need to be enforced. The judicial system must take the lead on this.

Are Connecticut citizens so incompetent or inherently more dangerous than citizens of many other states who are free to have and use these types of firearms or firearm accessories such as arm braces? I think not.

How many of these presently banned and proposed banned firearms are actually used in violent crimes, in this state and in others? Please propose solutions that will actually address the root cause of much criminal activity. I get it; it's a lot easier to blame the gun.

I therefore **OPPOSE SB 16 AN ACT ADDRESSING GUN VIOLENCE AND JUVENILE CRIME** and urge you all to do the same.

I also **OPPOSE H.B. No. 5416 . AN ACT CONCERNING BULK PURCHASES OF PISTOLS AND REVOLVERS.**

**I DO:**

**SUPPORT Raised S.B. No. 388 . AN ACT CONCERNING THE DEFENSE OF A PERSON OR A PERSON'S DWELLING, PLACE OF WORK OR MOTOR VEHICLE.**

**SUPPORT Raised H.B. No. 5415 . AN ACT CONCERNING THE TRANSFER OF ASSAULT WEAPONS AND LARGE CAPACITY MAGAZINES.**

**SUPPORT Raised H.B. No. 5412 . AN ACT CONCERNING THE DUTY TO RETREAT IN A RELIGIOUS HOUSE OF WORSHIP.**

Respectfully,

Robert J. O'Connell  
Southington

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